Title 15. Division 2. BOARD OF PAROLE HEARINGS (formerly known as Board of Prison Terms)

INITIAL STATEMENT OF REASONS RN 07-04

Amendment to Section 2041 Review of Proposed Decisions

SPECIFIC PURPOSE OF EACH REGULATORY CHANGE AND ITS NECESSITY – GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 11346.2(B)(1).

The specific purpose of each change and the rationale supporting the Board of Parole Hearing's (Board) determination that each change is reasonably necessary to carry out the purpose for which the change is proposed is as follows:

Proposed section 2041(h). Review of Life Prisoner Decisions.

The proposed regulatory amendment modifies the process by which the Board reviews hearing panel decisions granting or denying parole to life prisoners. In particular, the proposed amendment requires that the chief counsel or designee review all grants of parole and a random sampling of denials of parole as specified by the Board. This ensures that quality control standards are consistently met.

TECHNICAL, THEORETICAL, AND EMPIRICAL STUDY, REPORT OR SIMILAR DOCUMENT RELIED UPON IN PROPOSING THE AMENDED REGULATION – GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 11346.2(B)(2).

The Board did not rely on any studies, reports or documents in proposing the amended regulation.

REASONABLE ALTERNATIVES TO THE PROPOSED REGULATORY CHANGE AND REASONS FOR REJECTING THOSE ALTERNATIVES – GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 11346.2(B)(3)(A).

The Board has not identified any alternatives to the proposed regulatory change.

REASONABLE ALTERNATIVES THAT WOULD LESSEN THE IMPACT ON SMALL BUSINESSES – GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 11346.2(B)(3)(B).

The Board has not identified any alternatives that would lessen any adverse impact on small businesses. However, no impact on small business is expected.

EVIDENCE SUPPORTING FINDINGS OF NO SIGNIFICANT ADVERSE ECONOMIC IMPACT ON ANY BUSINESS – GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 11346.2(B)(4).

The proposed regulation will not have a significant adverse economic impact on any business as the proposed change applies only to the method by which the Board reviews its life prisoner decisions.